

REMARKS

Claim Objections

Claims 5-7 were objected to because of informalities.

Claims 5-7 have been cancelled. Thus, the objection has become moot.

Rejections under 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 48-52090.

The Examiner alleged as follows:

JP '090 discloses rectangular body A and grip-shift stopping means D, 2. Note that the physical structure of the grip-shift stopping means is very broadly recited.

The other references cited on Form 892 disclose similar grip-shift stopping means.

Claims 1-7 have been cancelled and replaced by new claims 8-17.

Independent claim 8 recites “wherein said plug further comprises a grip part connected to said rear end of said plug body, said grip part, and said grip part is provided with a bulging portion positioned at a distance about 70 mm or less from the forward end of the plug body.”

Another independent claim 16 recites “wherein said plug further comprises a grip part connected to said rear end of said plug body, said grip part, and said grip part is provided with a recessed portion to fit a finger, said recessed portion positioned at a distance about 70 mm or less from the forward end of the plug body.”

JP 48-52090 discloses “a plug comprising flexible gripping portion of a certain length attached to the rear portion of the plug body, wherein the gripping portion has a finger stopper at its end” (claim). In the specification, JP 48-52090 describes as follows:

Because the plug of this invention is constitutes as described above, when the plug is put in, this is done by directing the pins of the plug (ㄠ) toward the outlet and by pressing the shoulder portion of the plug body; when the plug is pulled out, it is done by pulling the plug holding the gripping portion (ㄡ); because the hand is stopped by the finger stopper (2), it becomes very easy to pull out the plug. Also, because the plug is not pulled holding the cord (4) as conventionally done, the connection of the cord is not damaged to make the life longer.

(Page 4, lines 8-17 of the specification of JP 48-52090). Because the gripping portion is held by a hand, it will be shown by FIG. A in the explanatory drawings attached hereto. In contrast, according to the present invention, the bulging portion is positioned at a distance about 70 mm or less from the forward end of the plug body. Thus, the gripping portion is significantly longer than the grip part in the present invention.

Thus, JP 48-52090 does not teach or suggest “wherein said plug further comprises a grip part connected to said rear end of said plug body, said grip part, and said grip part is provided with a bulging portion positioned at a distance about 70 mm or less from the forward end of the plug body,” as recited in claim 8.

Also, JP 48-52090 does not teach or suggest “wherein said plug further comprises a grip part connected to said rear end of said plug body, said grip part, and said grip part is provided with a recessed portion to fit a finger, said recessed portion positioned at a distance about 70 mm or less from the forward end of the plug body,” as recited in claim 16.

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Art Unit: 2833

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Attorney Docket No.: 062877

Moreover, none of the references cited on Form 892 teaches or suggests the electric plug as recited in the present application.

For at least these reasons independent claims 8 and 16 patentably distinguish over JP 48-52090. Claims 9-15, depending from claim 8, and claim 17, depending from claim 16, also patentably distinguish over JP 48-52090 for at least the same reasons.

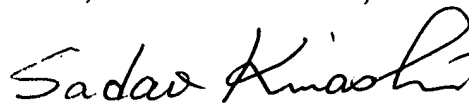
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Explanatory Drawings A-D